Export of Fruits by APEDA

3300. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is tardy in promoting export of fruits and vegetables;

(b) if so, what corrective steps are proposed to be taken in the matter;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that mangoes grown in Andhra Pradesh like Neelam and Banganpalli varieties have tremendous export potential;

(d) whether APEDA propose to promote the export of these varieties of mangoes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) No. Sir, On the contrary, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has formulated a number of schemes for promotion of exports of flowers and fruits and vegetables. The strategy adopted by APEDA for boosting exports of these items include increasing production and productivity, promotion of market development, dissemination of market information amongst exporters, development of infrastructural facilities, improvement of packing improvement of shelf-life etc.

(c) to (e) There is good potential for export of mangoes, including Neelam and Banganpalli varieties. To promote exports of mangoes including these varieties, APEDA has taken a number of steps including development of transportation by sea, improvement of in post harvest handling, improvement in shelf-life, organisation of buyer-seller meets, participation in international trade fairs etc.

Export and Import of Rice

3301. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :
SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have exported superior quality of rice and imported inferior quality of rice at a little profit; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) It is the policy of Government to permit exports of rice without compromising the food security of the country. Exports of basmati rice are allowed freely with a minimum export price of US $ 555 P.M.T. With effect from 15-1-93, export of non-basmati rice whose export price is not less than US $ 275 per MT (F.O.B.) is allowed freely without a licence. Non-basmati rice whose export price is less than US $ 275 per m.t. is not permitted to be exported.

During the current year (April 1992 to November 1992) 1,73,076 mts of basmati rice valued at US $ 168.74 million have been exported against 2,13,824 m.ts. of non-basmati valued at US $ 47.49 million. A quantity of 2.15 lakh tonnes of rice @ US $ 180 PMT FOB was contracted for import from Vietnam during the period from July-November 1992. It comprises of 1.40 lakh MTs of rice on commercial basis and 0.75 lakh MTs of rice against payment of interests dues on old commodity loans outstanding against Vietnam.